

## Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 IGA-01 /018 W

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P 050950Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, XB, RP

SUBJECT: AID FY 1975 SUPPORT OF ASIAN-AMERICAN FREE LABOR

INSTITUTE (AAFLI) PROGRAMS

REF: STATE 043495

1. BOTH EMBASSY AND USAID HAVE BEEN KEPT INFORMED BY AAFLI REGIONAL OFFICE IN MANILA OF PLANS FOR COMING PROGRAM YEAR. WE HAVE NO DIFFICULTIES WITH BUDGETARY LEVEL AND GENERAL APPROPRIATENESS OF EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND SOCIAL PROJECTS SPECIFIED PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 REFTEL. WISH EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER, IMPORTANCE RETAINING FLEXIBILITY TO SWITCH TO OTHER PROGRAMS IF SUDDEN NEED ARISES DURING BUDGET YEAR. THIS CONSIDERATION OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IF AS EXPECTED TRADE UNION RESTRUCTURING/UNIFICATION GETS INTO HIGH GEAR THIS YEAR UNDER ONE UNION/ONE INDUSTRY CONCEPT.

2. WITH RESPECT AAFLI REGIONAL ACTIVITIES MENTIONED PARA. 4 REFTEL, EMBASSY SUBMITS ONE SUGGESTION. IN VIEW FACT 1975 IS IWY, WOULD SEEM PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE UNDERTAKE AT LEAST ONE ASIAN REGIONAL PROGRAM INVOLVING TRADE UNION WOMEN. ONE POSSIBILITY -- DESPITE ADMITTEDLY SHORT NOTICE -- WOULD BE TO MAKE PROPOSED TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP FOR WOMEN SEMINAR IN MANILA (TENTATIVELY SET FOR APRIL 21 - 25) REGIONAL RATHER THAN NATIONAL IN SCOPE. PHILIPPINES IS PLAYING IMPORTANT ROLE IN IWY (AMBASSADOR LETICIA RAMOS SHAHANI OF PHILIPPINES IS CHARMAN OF UN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN, SEE MANILA 235 AND 1735),

AND AAFLI REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR ASIAN TRADE UNION WOMEN  
WOULD BE ASSURED HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION HERE. FURTHER  
ATTRACTION FROM U.S. STANDPOINT IS FACT ASIAN PARTICIPANTS  
SUCH SEMINAR WOULD BE EXPOSED TO CARMEN MAYMI, DIRECTOR  
OF WOMEN'S BUREAU (SEE MANILA 2473). LABATT HAS DIS-  
CUSSED ABOVE SUGGESTION WITH AAFLI COUNTRY DIRECTOR KEN  
HUTCHISON AND AAFLI REGIONAL DIRECTOR JACK GOODWYN WHO  
BOTH FAVORABLY DISPOSED AND PLAN RAISE MATTER DURING  
COURSE AAFLI CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON MARCH 10 - 20.

3. FINALLY, WE WISH LEND OUR FULL SUPPORT TO CONCEPT  
OF GENERAL CONTINGENCY FUND FOR AAFLI. THIS WAS ONE OF  
RECOMMENDATIONS SUGGESTED BY MESSRS. STEINBERG AND ELIOT  
OF AID/W IN THEIR JANUARY 3, 1975 REPORT: AAFLI FIELD  
APPRAISAL. THEIR PROPOSAL INVOLVED "MODEST (\$100,000)  
FUND FOR GENERAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES TO BE ESTABLISHED  
IN AAFLI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON TO PROVIDE PROGRAM  
FLEXIBILITY....."

4. IN PHILIPPINES, FOR EXAMPLE, RAPID FORMATION OF  
INDUSTRIAL FEDERATIONS UNDER RESTRUCTURING COULD NECESSI-  
TATE TAPPING OF SUCH CONTINGENCY FUNDS FOR SPECIFIC ASSIS-  
TANCE PROJECTS SUCH AS BUILDING OF WORKER EDUCATION AND  
RESEARCH CENTER FOR UMBRELLA LABOR CONFEDERATION.

5. USAID CONCURS IN ABOVE.  
SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

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